

LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

115 East Magnolia Street Leesburg, FL 34748

Annual Report – 2005



“Enhancing the Quality Of Life within Our Community”

Chief of Police H. Charles Idell, Jr.

LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

Farewell...

You have made a difference & I will be missed!

**Chief H. Charles Idell,
Jr.**

March 1974 - January 2006

Major Lee Hunter

February 1975 - December 2005

Thirteen years ago, Chuck Idell moved into the "Ivory Tower" and became our Chief.

The first day he moved in to begin his journey, he unpacked three things:

From his Heart, he brought out a "Vision",

From his Briefcase, he carefully removed "Faith & Hope",

From a Crate, he hauled out "Determination".

Chief Idell believed in his "Vision",

With the help of "Faith & Hope",

His "Vision" became the Department's "Vision"; and

With a lot of "Determination"...

His "Vision" became a "Reality"

It is said, "All great leaders know when and to whom to delegate work" and being a true leader, Chief Idell knew whom to delegate the "Determination" component of his "Vision"...

Major Lee Hunter

Major Hunter was not constantly in the "Spotlight" or "Public View", which is the way he preferred it, but that did not make him any less important. Major Hunter was the "Behind the Scenes" Leader; he was the "mover and shaker" of Leesburg Police Department. He was Chief Idell's "right hand man"; he was to many of us a friend, a mentor, a teacher, an encourager. Unfortunately for the employees, Major Hunter, at times, had to be the disciplinarian, and to his displeasure he was usually the "Messenger" he had to remind Chief Idell not to kill (and who said only cats had nine lives?).

LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mission Statement

"To Enhance the Quality Of Life within Our Community"

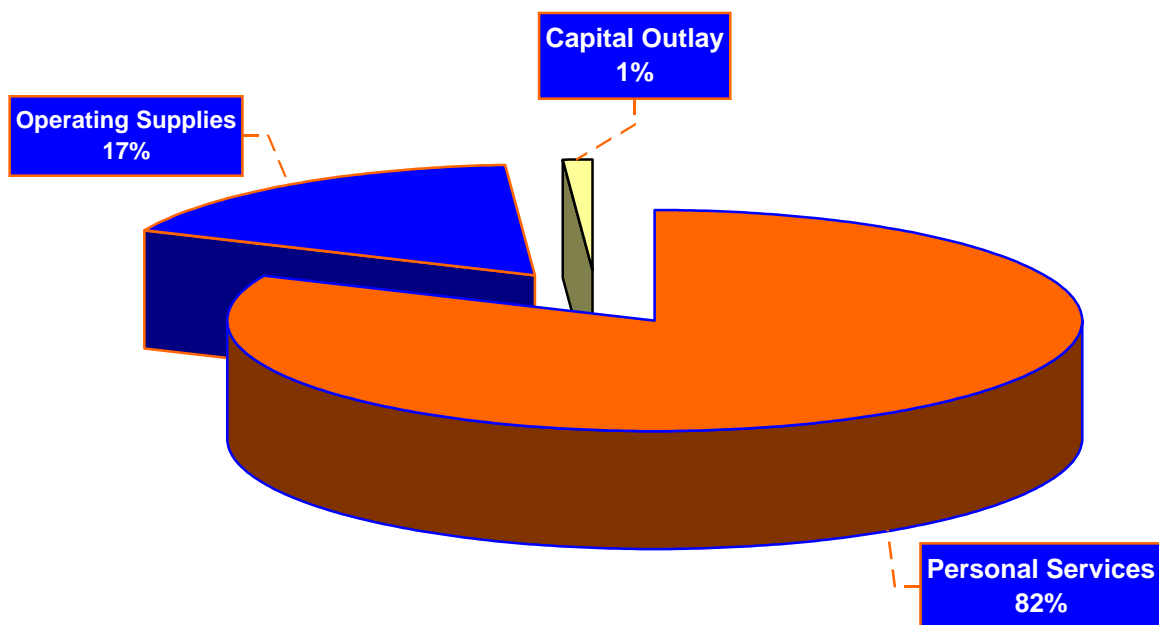
- ❑ Preserving peace and maintaining order.
- ❑ Enforcing the law.
- ❑ Protecting life and property.
- ❑ Reducing the fear of crime by preventative and direct control techniques, increasing public awareness to eliminate opportunities of criminal activity, protecting individual rights as guaranteed in the United States Constitution, and providing for additional community service needs.

The active involvement of City residents through the formation of a public/private sector partnership is essential to the accomplishment of these goals.



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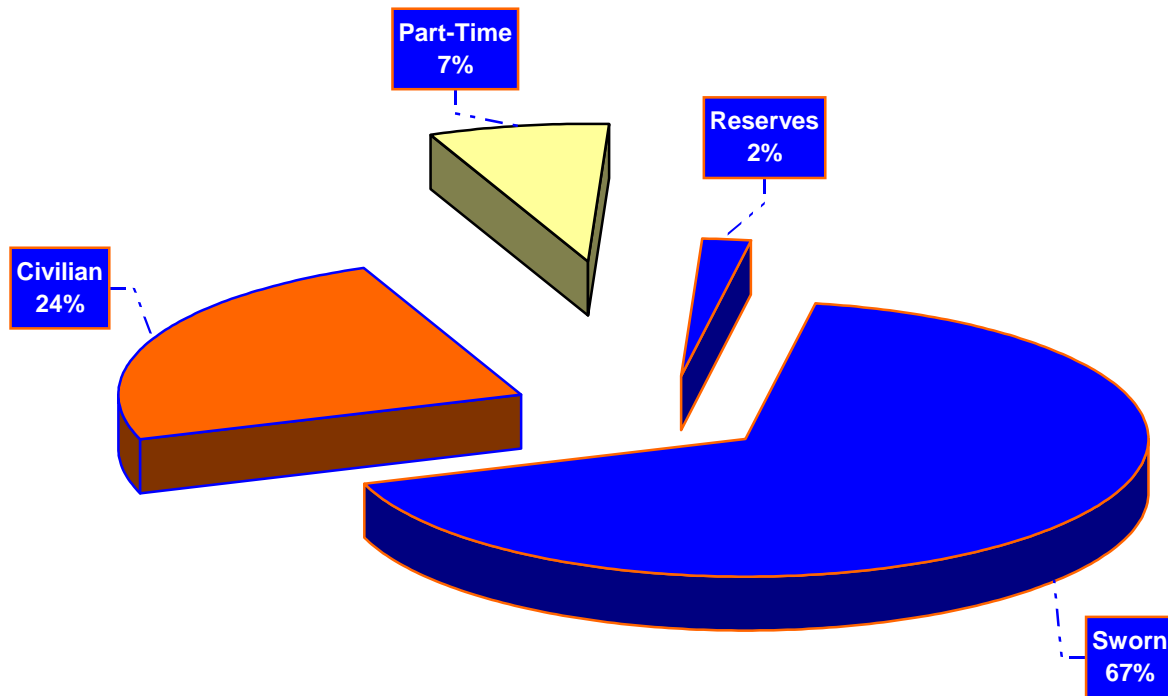
2005/2006 Annual Budget



<i>Personal Services</i>	<i>6,073,393</i>	<i>82%</i>
<i>Operating Expenses</i>	<i>1,287,986</i>	<i>17%</i>
<i>Capital Outlay</i>	<i>75,468</i>	<i>1%</i>

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2005/2006 Personnel



Classification	Employees
Sworn	73
Reserve Officers	2
Civilian	26
Part-Time	8
Total	109

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2005 Monthly Awards



MONTH	POLICE OFFICER	SUPPORT SERVICES
January	John Sommersdorf	Shelby Potter-Johnson
February	Marlene Frost	Erin Stevens
March	Jon Graver Troy Twigg	Kalisha Jones
April	Jeff Broneck	Mary Lee Edwards
May	Ian Thornton	Lisa Montgomery
June	Jon Graver	Records Section
July	Nick Brown	Tim Smith
August	Becki Sirolli	Ralph Barry
September	Jim Dunagan Rich Giles	Peggy Duggins Lynn Kendall
October	David Foster	Marcia Clark
November	Jim Dunagan	Erin Stevens

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December

Chris Parsons

Laila Gough

2005 Officer of the Year

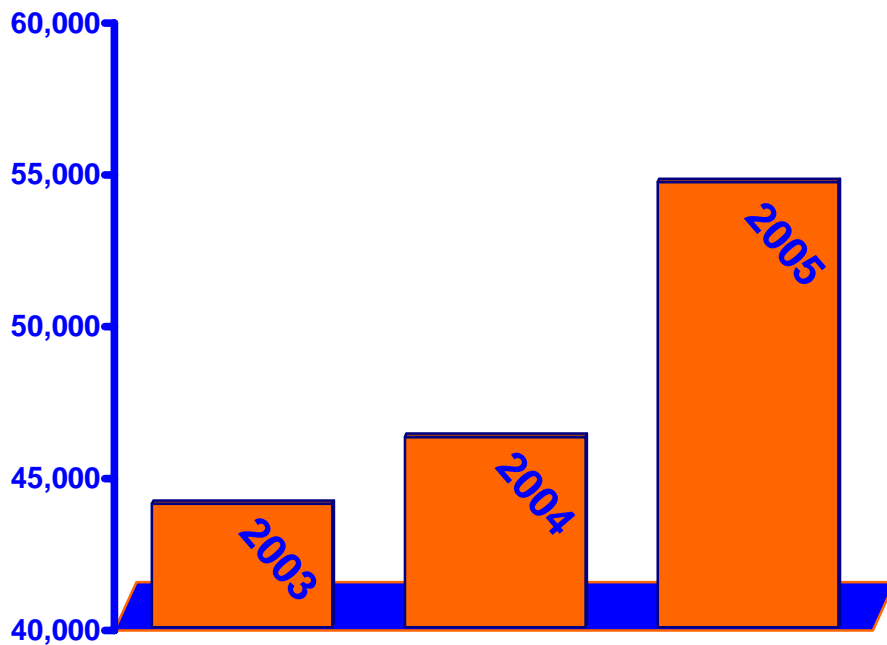
Officer Kenneth Lane exemplifies the characteristics of an outstanding law enforcement officer. His commitment to the citizens of the great City of Leesburg is indisputable; he serves with honor, dignity and integrity. Officer Lane does not perform his job in hopes of recognition or praise, he simply does it and does it right the first time. His talent to interrelate with all segments of our community and his selfless work ethic has earned him the designation of Leesburg's "Officer of the Year". Officer Lane is not only known for his dedication and commitment to the City and community, but also to his family.



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Officer Kenny Lane stands with his wife, Lora.

REPORTED CRIME AND ARREST STATISTICS



Year	Calls for Service	Percent (+/-)
2003	44,060	+ 6%
2004	46,271	+ 5%
2005	54,659	+18%

LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

Part I Crimes

Homicide

Sex Offenses: Forcible

Aggravated Assault

Vehicle Burglary

Business Burglary

Conveyance Burglary

Hotel/Motel Burglary

Residential Burglary

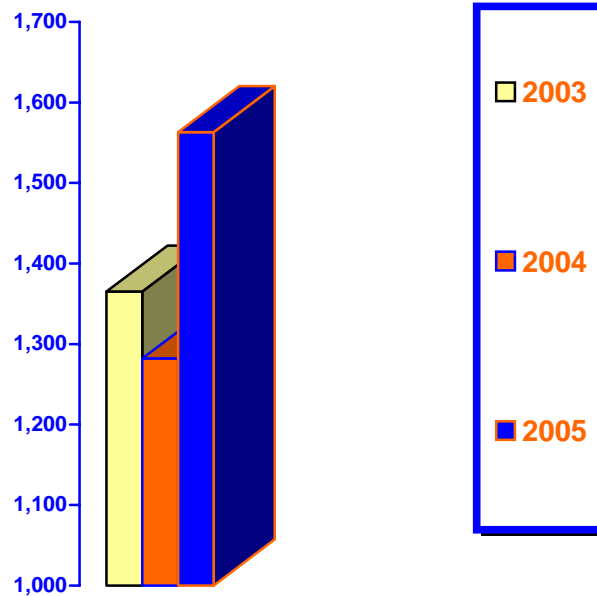
School Burglary

Larceny (All)

Vehicle Theft

Arson

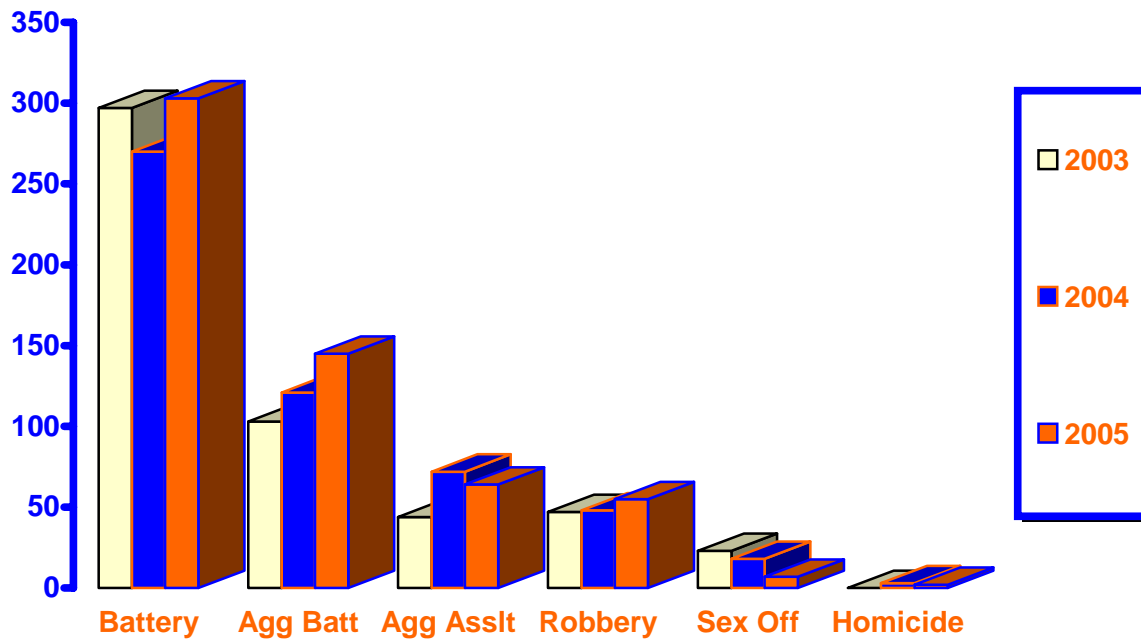
Robbery



Part I Crimes		Percent (+/-)
2003	1365	+ 9%
2004	1282	- 6%
2005	1563	+22%

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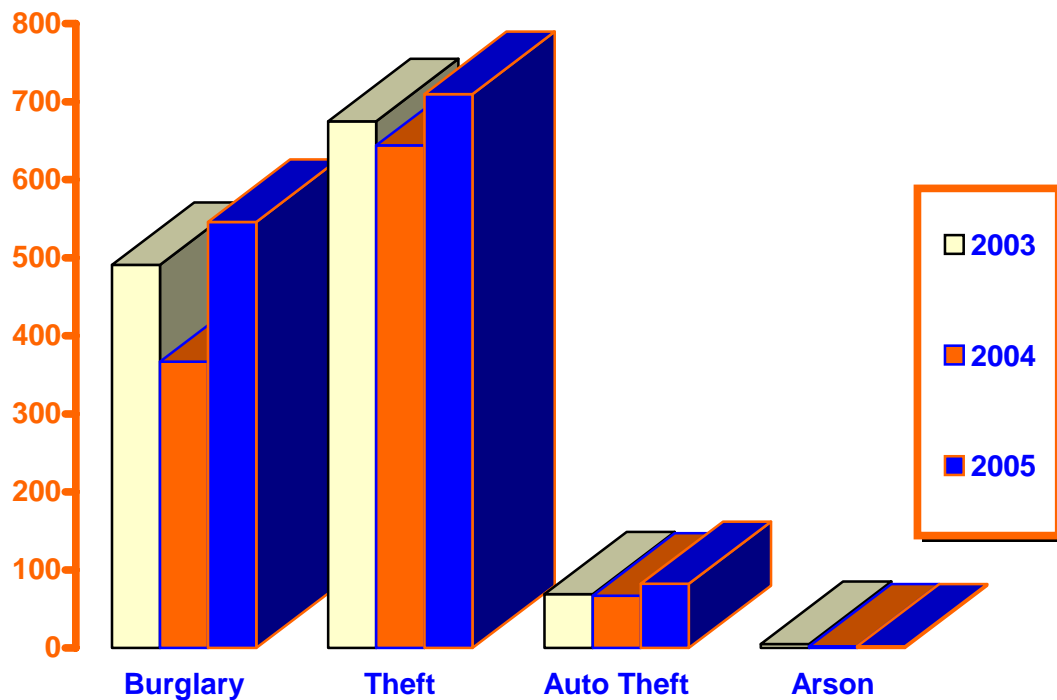
Violent Crimes



Crime	2003	2004	2005	Change
Homicide	0	3	2	- 1 case
Sex Offenses	23	18	7	- 11 cases
Robbery	47	48	55	+ 7 cases
Aggravated Assault	44	72	64	- 11 %
Aggravated Battery	103	121	145	+20 %
Battery	297	270	303	+12 %

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Property Crimes

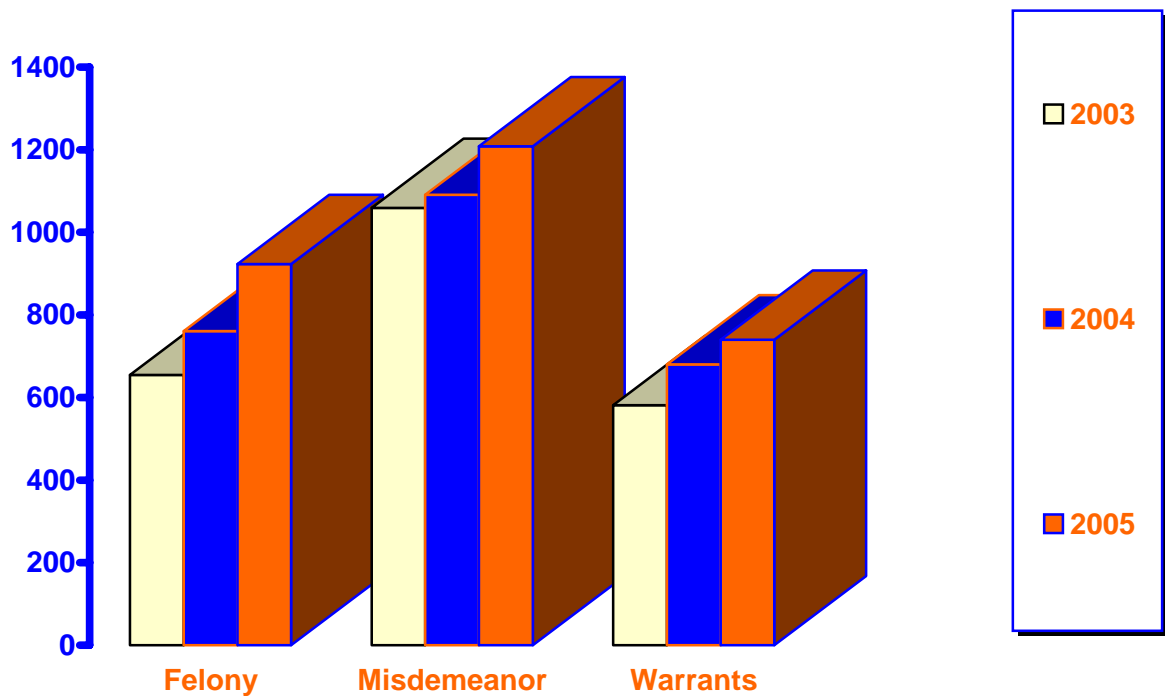


<i>Crime</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>Percentage (+/-)</i>
<i>Burglary</i>	<i>491</i>	<i>367</i>	<i>546</i>	<i>+49 %</i>
<i>Theft</i>	<i>675</i>	<i>644</i>	<i>710</i>	<i>+10 %</i>
<i>Auto Theft</i>	<i>69</i>	<i>67</i>	<i>82</i>	<i>+22 %</i>
<i>Arson</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0</i>

LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

Criminal Arrests

The reported crime and arrest statistics shown have been compiled from the Police Department computer system for a year-to-year comparison. Arrest statistics indicate the number of persons arrested, not the number of individual charges made. Some defendants have been charged with more than one crime.

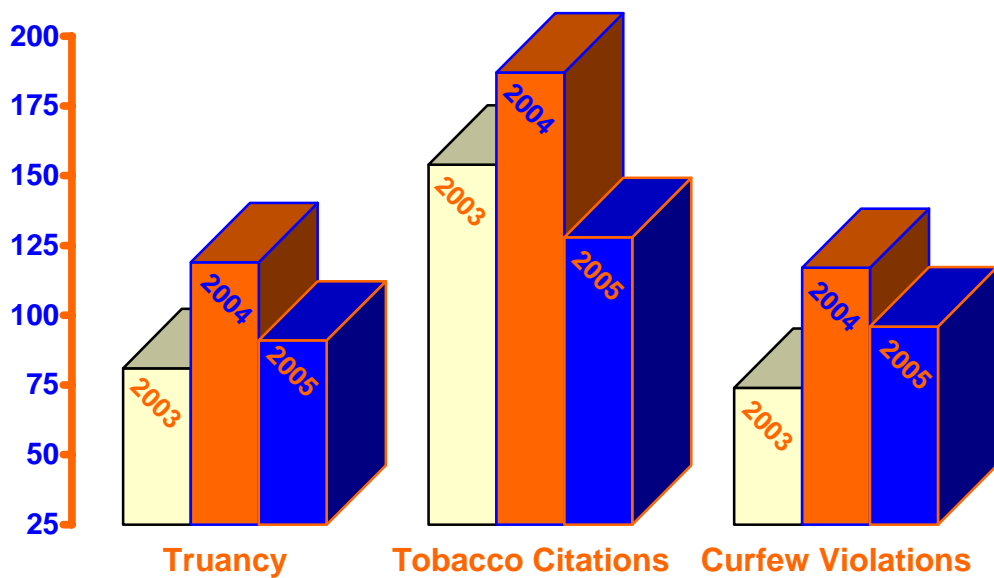


Arrests Types	2003	2004	2005	Percent(+/-)
Felony Arrests	655	761	923	+ 21%
Misdemeanor Arrests	1,059	1,091	1,208	+ 11%
Warrant Arrests	581	680	740	+ 9%

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Specific Non-Criminal Enforcement

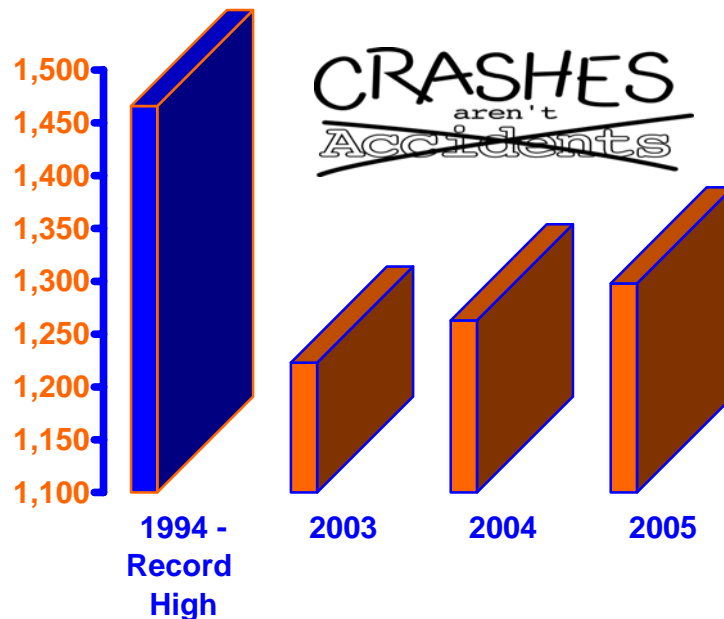
The specific cases indicated below are selectively enforced and specifically tracked in response to citizen concerns expressed to department personnel regarding these violations.



	2003	2004	2005	Percent (+/-)
Truancy Cases	81	119	91	- 24%
Tobacco Citations	154	187	128	- 31%
Curfew Violations	74	117	96	- 18%

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Traffic Crashes



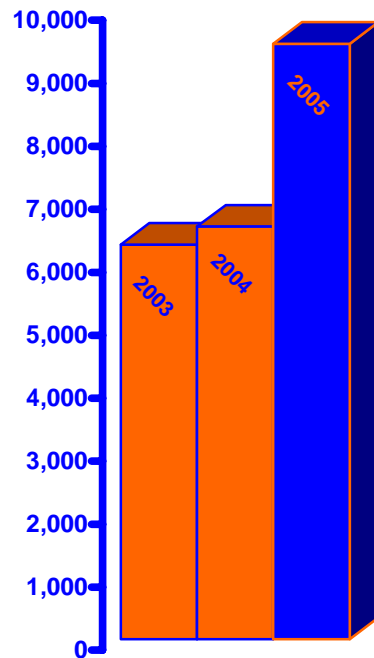
Year	Reported	Change
2003	1,223	- 2 crashes
2004	1,263	+3%
2005	1,298	+3%
1994	1,466	Record High

The year 1994 still holds the record high of 1,466 traffic crashes investigated by the Leesburg Police Department. Since then, a concerted effort was, and continues to be made to reduce the number of crashes occurring in the City of Leesburg. By Identifying high traffic crash areas, introducing the Motor Squad, making use of the stationary Radar Trailer, and utilizing selective traffic enforcement in those areas have been effective in reducing traffic crashes.

In 2005, the FDOT provided the City with several “Red Light Confirmation Lights”, which were installed on traffic lights in identified high crash intersections. Confirmation lights are another tool to assist in the traffic enforcement efforts to reduce crashes and make the streets safer.

LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

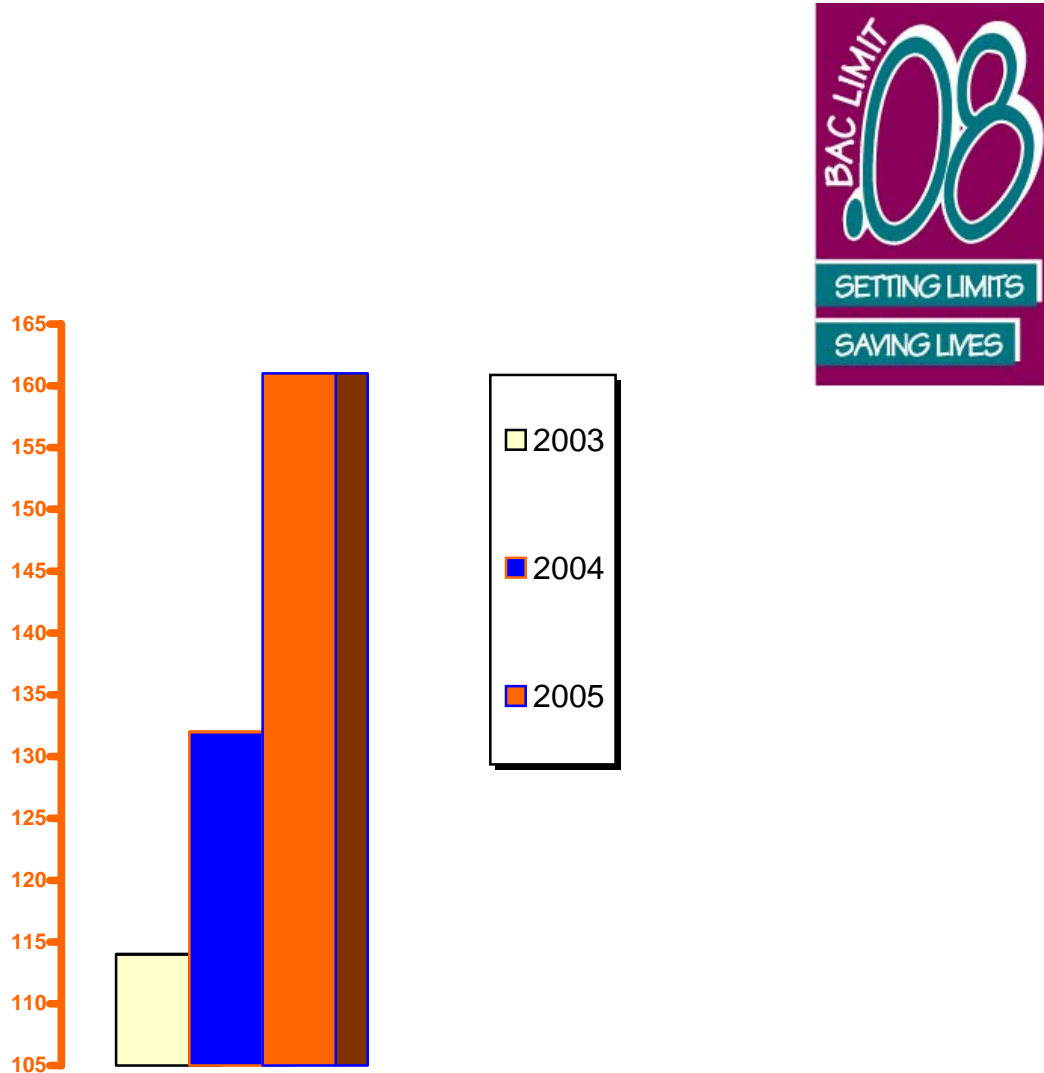
Traffic Citations



<i>Year</i>	<i>Citations</i>	<i>Percent (+/-)</i>
2003	6,268	- 9%
2004	6,554	+ 4%
2005	9,546	+ 46%

LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

DUI Arrests



Year	DUI Arrests	Percent (+/-)
2003	114	- 3%
2004	132	+ 14%
2005	161	+ 22%

LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

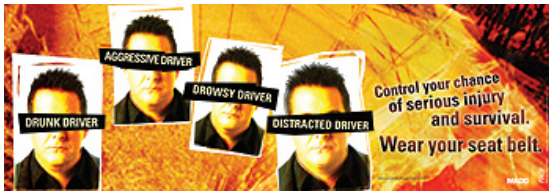
Patrol Division

The Patrol Division is the backbone of the department. This division consists of 45 Officers, five Corporals, four Sergeants, two Lieutenants and one Major. The primary function of the Patrol Division is answering calls for service and citizen concerns within the community.

To better handle the unique demands on modern law enforcement, our Patrol Division also includes several specialized units. These units include our Motor Squad, S.W.A.T. Team, and K-9 Unit.

Motor Squad

The Motor Squad is made up of four Patrol Officers who are specifically assigned to work selective traffic enforcement and investigate traffic crashes. The officers utilize Harley-Davidson motorcycles to accomplish their mission, which enables them to move more freely through congested traffic. During the 2005 calendar year, the Motor Squad was responsible for 22% of the traffic citations issued by the Department and for investigating 48% of the traffic crashes which occurred within the City.



All of the Motor Officers are trained as Traffic Homicide Investigators. They investigated three (3) traffic fatalities during the year. They also conducted five (5) preliminary investigations, which fortunately, did not result in loss of life. In addition to their traffic enforcement duties, the Motor Squad is responsible for conducting equipment inspections on wreckers used in our area and all four are members of the Leesburg Police Department Honor Guard.

The Motor Squad Officers strongly support the department's philosophy of Citizen Oriented Policing and have participated in educational programs like the "Back to School Safety Fair" held at the Lake Square Mall. The officers actively support and assist the Community Traffic Safety Team (CTST) and the Traffic Incident Management Team (TIMS).

During the year, the Leesburg Police Department participated with other local agencies in enforcement projects. The projects participated in included the "Buckle-Up Florida" and the "Stop Red Light Running Week" campaigns this past year to promote public safety and awareness.

The goal of the Motor Squad is to decrease the number of crashes and fatalities, which occur within our City by educating citizens on safety and proper driving habits.

LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

S.W.A.T. Team

S.W.A.T. Operations:

This year proved to be another successful and challenging year for the Leesburg Police Department S.W.A.T. Team. During 2005, the S.W.A.T. Team was deployed a total of 9 times, 8 of these were search warrants on drug locations in the city which resulted in the arrest of 17 people for narcotic related charges. In May of 2005 the S.W.A.T. Team responded to a barricaded suspect call at Hardee's in Leesburg, which was resolved without incident.



S.W.A.T. Round-Up 2005

Once again the Leesburg Police Department S.W.A.T. Team traveled to Orlando, FL to compete in the annual S.W.A.T. Round-Up competition.



This year marks the 11th year of competing for LPD S.W.A.T. Sixty-six teams from around the world competed in the 2005 S.W.A.T. Round-Up competition including 7 foreign teams. At the end of the physically and mentally demanding week, the Leesburg S.W.A.T. Team landed in 16th Place overall and received an award for

being the #1 team in the world with less than 100 sworn officers. In addition, the team placed third in the Officer Rescue Event. For their outstanding performance, the Team was awarded new gas masks and tactical boots. The team also attended 52 hours of required educational classes while at the competition.

LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

Training:

The S.W.A.T. Team conducted 1,197 hours of in-service training this year, which was an increase of 44% over last year. This included adopting a new and stricter physical fitness testing policy which is conducted on a quarterly basis. Some of the training conducted for the year included vehicle assaults, firearms training, dynamic entry training, and rappelling.



S.W.A.T. Equipment:

In 2005, through budgetary means, The Leesburg Police Department was able to acquire six pair of night vision goggles to allow our officers to move and search for hidden suspects in darkness. In addition, a night vision scope was purchased for the police snipers, which allows them to make long-range observations in complete darkness. The team completed outfitting each member with state-of-the-art communications headsets, which allows them to better communicate while on missions. The team also purchased a wireless camera system, which will allow them to monitor or search for a barricaded suspect with cameras that are nearly undetectable to the suspect.



LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

CANINE UNIT

Overview

The Leesburg Police Department Canine Unit consists of four German Shepherds. All are trained in Narcotic Detection, Tracking, Building Search, Area Search, Evidence Recovery, Criminal Apprehension, and Handler Protection. During the year we had three of our veteran dogs retire. Three new recruit dogs were added. Ofc. Pinkston and Ofc. Green were also appointed to the Unit.



Training



Our Canine Unit trains locally as well as with the Lake County Sheriff's Department K9 Unit. The lead instructor, Deputy Kurt Dumond is a CJSTC certified K-9 Training Team Instructor / Evaluator. Training sessions include all aspects of the team's capabilities as well as "real world" scenarios to evaluate proficiency. During 2005, the unit conducted 394 Hours of training.

Narcotics Deployment

Examinations Conducted

Positive Responses

Vehicles: ***392***

232

Schools: ***1***

1

Total: ***393***

233

LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

Deployment Data

Drug Seizures

Drug: *Estimated Street Value:*

<i>Cocaine:</i>	<i>28.13 Grams</i>	<i>\$ 2,578.00</i>
<i>Cannabis:</i>	<i>441.88 Grams</i>	<i>\$ 6,568.00</i>
<i>Paraphernalia:</i>	<i>13 items</i>	<i>\$ 101.00</i>
<i>Methamphetamine:</i>	<i>1 Gram</i>	<i>\$ 35.00</i>
<i>Prescription Drugs:</i>	<i>1 Dose</i>	<i>\$.00</i>

Total Street value of Drug Seizures: *\$ 9,282.00*

Property Seizures

Property Type: *Estimated Value:*

<i>Currency:</i>		<i>\$ 1,353.00</i>
<i>Vehicles:</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>\$ 37,000.00</i>
<i>Other:</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>\$ 35.00</i>
<i>Total value of Seizures:</i>		<i>\$ 38,388.00</i>

General Duty Deployment:

Conducted: *Arrests:*

<i>Tracks:</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Building Searches:</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Area Searches:</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Pursuits:</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Support Deployment:</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>

LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

Criminal Investigations Division

The Criminal Investigations Division is responsible for all felony investigations, narcotic and vice investigations, and all evidence collected by the Departments officers. This Division consists of an Evidence Technician, 2 Vice Officers, 6 Detectives, an Investigative Specialist, a Corporal, a Sergeant, and a Captain. The Division investigates an average of 206 incidents each month. In 2005, Department records reflected 2,474 felonies for the year. The Division received 4,231 items of evidence and conducted 19 psychological stress exams.



The Narcotic/Vice officers made 104 cases, including drug buys, Lewd/Lascivious Acts, 21 search warrants, Sale of Alcohol without a License, Assignment to Commit Prostitution, and Assignment to Commit a Lewd Act. The total street value of narcotics seized was \$327,574.00. A total of \$72,538.00 in U.S. Currency was seized during these investigations and \$81,746.09 was transferred into the Forfeiture fund.



Two Homicides occurred during 2005. Arrests were made on both cases, and investigations continue on 5 cold case homicides.

	2003	2004	2005
Cases Assigned	1,539	2,030	2,474
Cases Cleared	1,143	1,153	1,248
Felony Arrests	156	153	214

LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

Training

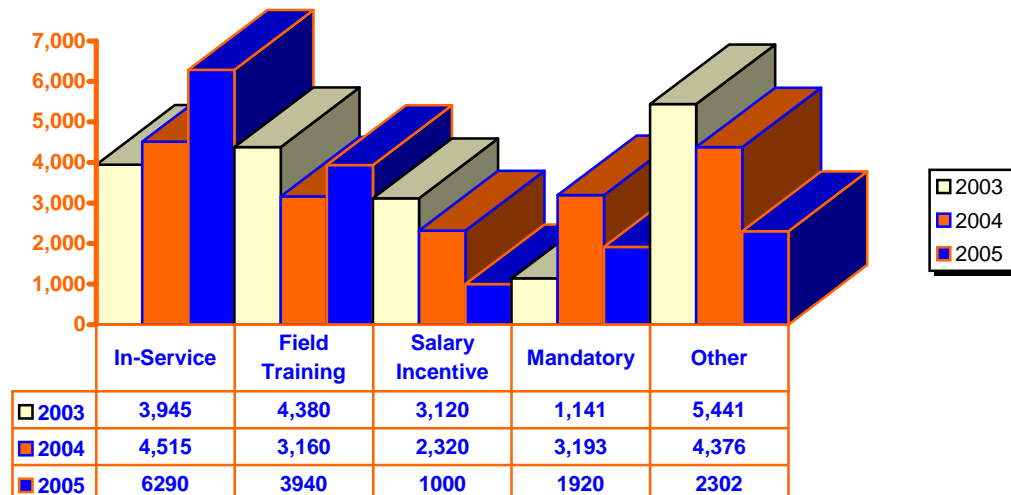
Leesburg Police Department's education and training programs have proven successful during the calendar year 2005. Education and training are the fundamental elements bringing law enforcement closer to a true profession. Our dedication to this endeavor is evident in the figures seen below.

In 2005 the Department assigned a full-time training coordinator to oversee all aspects of department training. The training coordinator creates the annual training calendar, keeps track of mandatory training requirements and hosts training for police related topics for numerous agencies within the state.

The category of "Other" training refers to outside classes attended by personnel that are designed to enhance their knowledge and skills in a specific area and often results in the employee obtaining an instructors certificate in the topic.



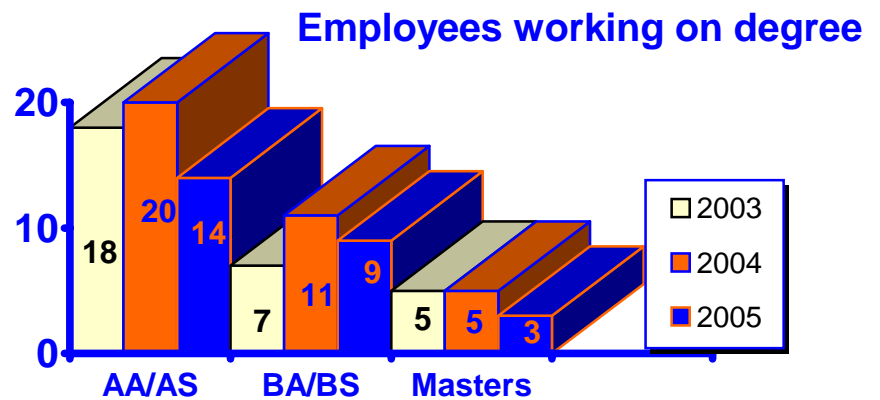
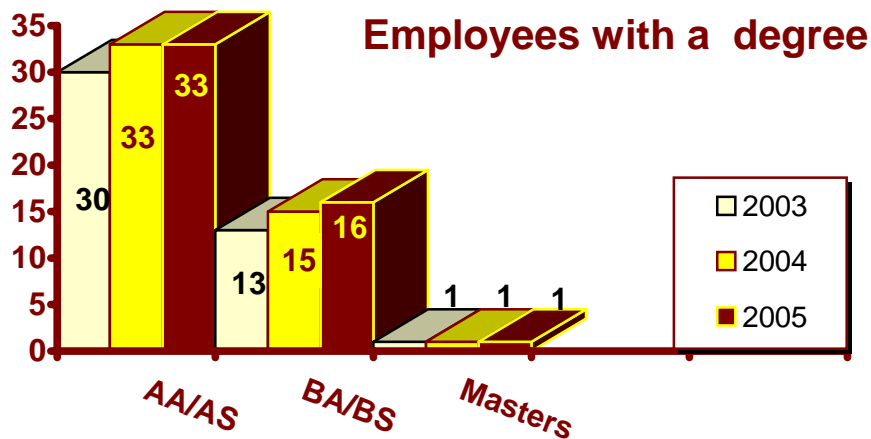
In-Service training consists of job specific topics which include firearms, CPR, baton, criminal law updates, terrorism, blood borne pathogens, PPE (Personal Protective Equipment), aggressive drivers, Defensive Action, and policy review.



LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

Education

Department personnel continued their developmental education at the college level during 2005. The 100% tuition incentive offered by the City plays a major role in the employees' decision to attend college. By the end of 2005, approximately 50% of the Police Department's full time employees either have or are currently working on some type of formal college education. The following data reflects Leesburg Police Department education statistics for the year.



LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Community Services Section conducted over seventy-five (75) presentations to local churches, civic groups, and community action groups in the Leesburg area in 2005. These presentations included the following topics:

Crime Prevention

Personal Safety

Neighborhood Watch

Drug Education

Child Safety

School Safety

The Neighborhood Watch program continued to work with the established watch groups in the city. Department representatives met with the groups and provided assistance with community activities. Safety presentations were also conducted for the groups. Active Neighborhood Watch Groups include:

Neighborhood Watch Groups

Carver Heights

Palmora Park

Royal Oak Estates

Timber Ridge

Coachwood Colony



LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT



The Leesburg D.A.R.E. Officer instructed the D.A.R.E. curriculum to over 250 students in elementary schools.



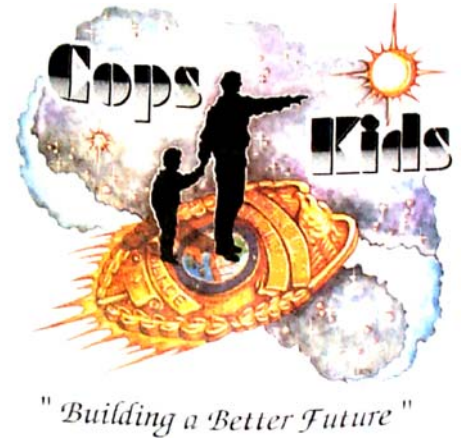
The following programs and affiliations were continued during the 2005 calendar year:

- The D.A.R.E. program (elementary schools)
- School Resource Officer (Middle and High Schools)
- Neighborhood Watch Program
- Police Explorers
- Business and Residential Surveys
- "Kritters for Kids"
- "If I Were A Thief"
- Career Day (various schools/groups)
- MADDADS
- Black Heritage Festival
- Drug Free Inc, affiliation
- Gun Safety program
- Alzheimer's and Dementia Registry
- Leesburg Chamber of Commerce
- Middle Schools CAC advisory committees
- Safety Expo
- Bicycle Safety Program



LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Senior Expo
- Youth Safety Expo and Car Show
- Youth Crime Watch
- Participation in the MLK Community Celebrations
- Christmas Bicycle Giveaway (45 bikes)
- LHS Prom Promise
- Fingerprinting
- Junior Athletic Games (JAG)
- Police Website management
- SRO training program
- D.A.R.E. Power Point Presentations
- Certified Convenience Store Inspections
- Parenting Awareness Training (Drug and Gang education)
- Florida Association of School Resource Officers training conference
- Powerpoint presentations on Internet stalking for teenagers
- Presentations to the Lake County Senior Center on elderly fraud
- Safety lectures and tours of local Cub Scout Packs
- Crime prevention presentations for local businesses
- Participated in the Downtown Leesburg Halloween and Christmas Programs



During the holiday season the Leesburg Police Department Community Services Division along with the assistance of area businesses presented 45 bicycles to children within our community. This project would not have been possible without the support and willingness of our business community. As an added bonus, the Community Service Division entered the Leesburg Annual Chili Cook-off coming away with the first prize trophy and a \$500.00 check that was used to purchase Christmas bicycles.

During the summer break the School Resource Officers went about the task of contacting the local businesses within the city to update all emergency contact information.

LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

Support Services Division

The Support Services Division has the mission of performing support activities for the Patrol Division and the Criminal Investigations Division. The following are statistical reports of the activities of each Section.

Communications Section

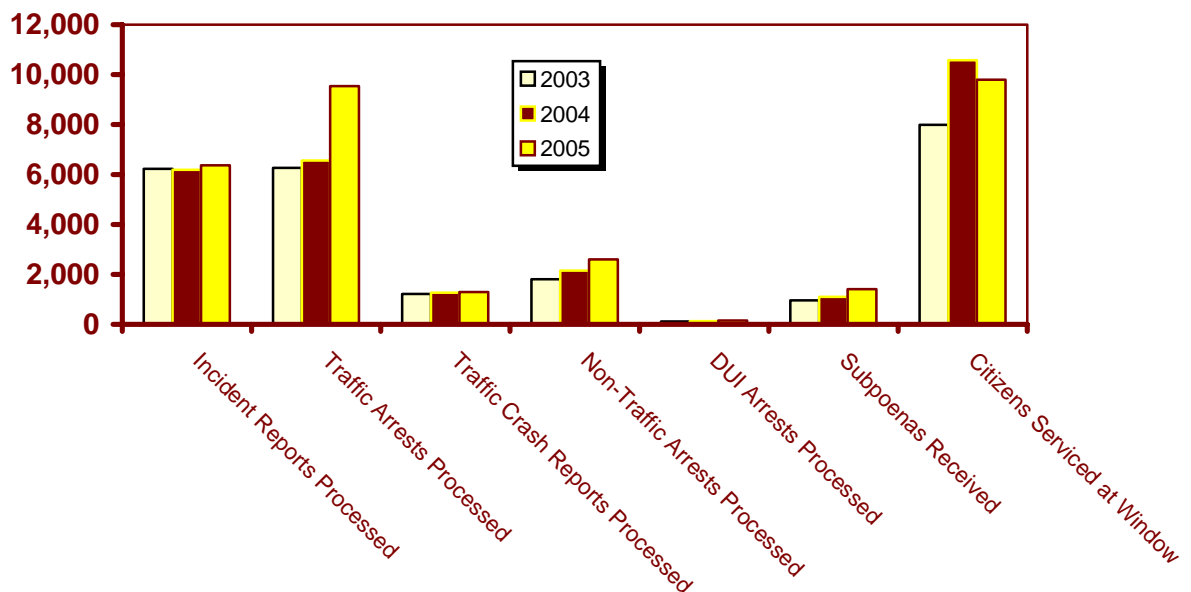
The Communications Section processed 71,057 calls for service in 2005. Of these, 12,985 were 9-1-1 calls. There were 140 Telecommunications Device for the Deaf calls/tests performed during the year. There were 3,273 calls processed for the Fire Department between January and September. There were 2,353 hours of training and instruction accomplished during 2005. The Communications Section is 100% APCO (Association of Public Safety Communications Officers) certified.



Records Section

The Records Section processed 6,364 incident reports, 1,296 traffic crash reports, 9,535 traffic tickets, 2,602 non-traffic arrests, and accepted 1,415 subpoenas for court appearances. Records logs indicate 9,792 citizens came into the Department lobby and were assisted by members of the Section.

The Records Section employees attended a total of 81½ hours of training in 2005. In addition, the Records Section has acquired flat screen monitors for all their computers and added one new phone line for an additional desk.



LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

Code Enforcement Section

The Code Enforcement Section received 1,831 calls for service during the 2005 calendar year. Corrective action was taken to abate the violations and compliance was obtained. Cases brought before the Code Enforcement Magistrate totaled 130. Compliance has either been achieved in these matters or a fine is running against the violator.



During the year, there were 102 complaints and questions referred to outside agencies, requiring no further action by this office. Another 358 calls for information and/or suggestions regarding various situations were handled within the Code Enforcement Section and required no report.

Statistics:

Complaints Received: 1,831
Verbal/Written Warnings Issued: 1,437
Complaints Referred to Other Agencies: 102
Info/Unfounded Complaint Only Calls: 358
Cases Presented to Code Enf Magistrate: 130



LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

Animal Control Unit

The Animal Control Unit remained active during the year, processing a total of 1,321 calls for service within the community. These calls for service included rendering information to the public, animal bites, aggressive animals, at-large and injured animals. These calls were not solely regarding domestic animals but also included a variety of exotic and natural wildlife.



Animal Captures:

Cats: 339
Dogs: 201
Other: 117
Total: 657

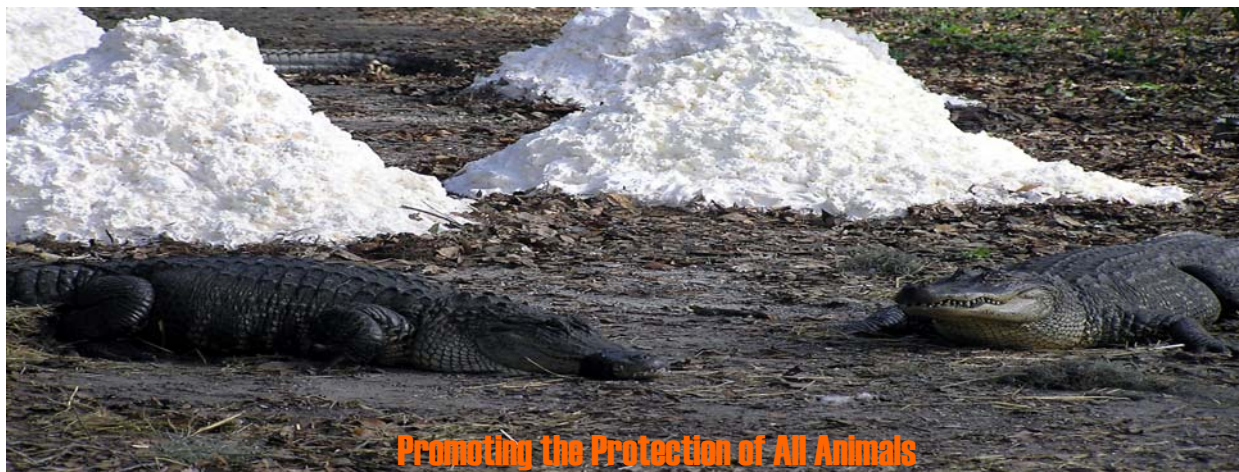
Animal Bites Reported:

Dogs: 42
Cats: 14
Other: 0
Total: 56

Calls Requiring Action: 881
Info and Referral: 440
Total Calls: 1,321

NOTICES ISSUED FOR CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD ACTION:

Verbal Warning:	63	Written Warning:	4
Notice to Appear:	0	Cases Presented to Magistrate:	1



Promoting the Protection of All Animals